



Abstract

Apparatus and method for container leak detection employs a tank of liquid and a conveyor assembly with a drive therefor to convey containers through the tank beneath the surface of the liquid. A light source illuminates the liquid in an observation region. At least one optical detector has a view line across the tank to monitor for bubbles of a selected size. A contrasting background may be used to enhance detection, and magnetic devices may be used to hold the containers on the advance portion of the conveyor. The optical detector in the exemplary embodiments is a imaging processor. Access doors are provided to permit removal of leaking container upon its detection. The system may be automated with controls to stop the conveyor upon detection of a leaking container and to generate an alarm. The method involves the steps performed by this apparatus.